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Filed: July 23, 1999.

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

- ~~23. A recombinant polypeptide comprising the protein of SEQ ID NO.1.~~
- ~~24. A recombinant polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO.1.~~
- ~~25. A recombinant polypeptide encoded by one or more of the following:~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a) the nucleic acid sequence set forth by SEQ ID NO.2~~
  - ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b) a nucleic acid binding under high stringency conditions to the nucleic acid sequence set forth by SEQ ID NO.2~~
  - ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c) a nucleic acid having at least 95% identity to the nucleic acid sequence set forth by SEQ ID NO.2~~
- ~~26. A recombinant nucleic acid that is at least 95% identical to the nucleic acid sequence set forth by SEQ ID NO.2.~~
- ~~27. A recombinant nucleic acid according to claim 4 wherein said nucleic acid encodes a human B cell linker protein (BLNK protein).~~
- ~~28. A recombinant polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes under high stringency conditions to the nucleic acid sequence depicted by SEQ. ID NO.2.~~
- ~~29. A recombinant polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid which shows at least 95% identity to the nucleic acid sequence depicted by SEQ. ID NO.2.~~
- ~~30. A recombinant polypeptide which shows at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth by SEQ ID NO.1.~~
- ~~31. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide according to claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, or 9.~~
- ~~32. An antibody which binds to a polypeptide according to claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, or 9.~~
- ~~33. A method for screening for a bioactive agent capable of binding to a polypeptide according to claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, or 9, said method comprising combining a said polypeptide and a candidate bioactive agent, and determining the binding of said candidate agent to said polypeptide.~~
- ~~34. A method for screening for a bioactive agent capable of modulating the bioactivity of a polypeptide according to claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, or 9, said method comprising the steps of:~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a) combining:~~
  - ~~\_\_\_\_\_ i) said polypeptide; and~~
  - ~~\_\_\_\_\_ ii) a candidate bioactive agent; and~~
  - ~~\_\_\_\_\_ iii) a protein selected from the group consisting of Grb2 and PLC- $\gamma$ ;~~

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\_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ b) determining the binding of said protein to said polypeptide;  
wherein the absence of binding of said protein to said polypeptide indicates that said agent  
is capable of modulating the bioactivity of said polypeptide.

35. A recombinant BLNK protein, comprising an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

36. The recombinant BLNK protein according to Claim 35, wherein said BLNK protein comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

37. The recombinant BLNK protein according to Claim 35, wherein said BLNK protein will bind to a protein selected from the group consisting of Grb2, PLC $\gamma$ , Vav, and Nck.

38. The recombinant BLNK protein according to Claim 35 or 37, wherein said BLNK protein comprises an amino acid sequence which lacks at least one tyrosine phosphorylation site corresponding to a tyrosine phosphorylation site selected from the group consisting of Tyr71, Tyr83, Tyr95, Tyr177 and Tyr187 in SEQ ID NO:1.

39. A recombinant BLNK protein, wherein said BLNK protein comprises an amino acid sequence which is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

40. The recombinant BLNK protein according to Claim 39, wherein said BLNK protein comprises an amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

41. The recombinant BLNK protein according to Claim 39, wherein said BLNK protein will bind to a protein selected from the group consisting of Grb2, PLC $\gamma$ , Vav, and Nck.

42. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the BLNK protein according to any one of Claims 35 to 41.

43. An antibody, which will bind to the BLNK protein according to any one of Claims 35 to 41.

44. A method for screening for a bioactive agent capable of binding to a BLNK protein, comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ a) combining a BLNK protein and a candidate bioactive agent; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ b) determining the binding of said candidate bioactive agent to said BLNK protein;  
wherein said BLNK protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and will bind to a protein selected from the group consisting of Grb2, PLC $\gamma$ , Vav, and Nck in the absence of said candidate bioactive agent.

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45. A method for screening for a bioactive agent capable of modulating the activity of a BLNK protein, comprising:  
a) combining a BLNK protein, a candidate bioactive agent, and a BLNK binding partner selected from the group consisting of Grb2, PLCγ, Vav, and Nck; and  
b) determining the binding of said BLNK protein to said BLNK binding partner;  
wherein said BLNK protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said BLNK protein will bind to said BLNK binding partner in the absence of a candidate bioactive agent, and wherein a decrease in the binding of said BLNK protein to said BLNK binding partner in the presence of said candidate bioactive agent indicates that said candidate bioactive agent is capable of modulating the activity of a BLNK protein.